

What Is Claimed Is:

Sub 1.

1 A system for distributing digital subscriber line (XDSL)
2 signals to end users over a telephone wiring plant comprising:
3 a central office for receiving video signals from a video source, the
4 central office including a first XDSL transmission unit for transmitting the
5 received video signals on a twisted pair copper cable along with other telephony
6 and digital data signals, and receiving data signals from end users;
7 at least one end user location having a second XDSL transmission
8 unit for receiving video signals from the twisted pair copper cable and transmitting
9 data signals to the central office; and
10 a regenerator connected to the twisted pair copper cable and located
11 a predetermined distance from the central office, the regenerator comprising:
12 a receiver for receiving XDSL signals transmitted on the
13 twisted pair copper cable from either the central office or the end user;
14 a decoder for decoding the payload of a received XDSL
15 signal into base data;
16 an encoder for repackaging and encoding the base data into
17 a desired protocol format; and
18 a line driver for retransmitting the encoded signal onto the
19 twisted pair copper cable for distribution to the original destination,
20 wherein the predetermined distance for the location of the repeater
21 corresponds to a point on the twisted pair cable where the signal-to-noise
22 ratio of a transmitted XDSL signal reaches a threshold of minimum
23 acceptable signal quality.

1 2. The system of claim 1 wherein the central office transmits
2 XDSL signal using an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) protocol, and the

3 regenerator encoder is arranged to selectively repackage the base data into either
4 the ATM protocol format or a direct transmission protocol format depending on
5 the protocol requirements of the destination terminal.

1 3. The system of claim 1 wherein the XDSL signals comprise
2 very-high-rate digital subscriber line (VDSL) type signals.

1 4. The system of claim 1 wherein the XDSL signals comprise
2 asynchronous digital subscriber line (ADSL) type signals.

1 5. The system of claim 1 wherein the line driver comprises a
2 variable rate line driver.

1 6. The system of claim 1 wherein the line driver comprises a
2 fixed rate line driver.

1 Sub 3 A method for distributing digital subscriber line (XDSL)
2 signals to end users over a telephone wiring plant comprising:
3 receiving video signals at a central office from a video source;
4 transmitting the received video signals on a twisted pair copper
5 cable along with other telephony and digital data signals as an XDSL type signal
6 to a terminal located at an end user site, and receiving data signals on the twisted
7 pair copper cable at the central office from an end user terminal;
8 coupling a signal regenerator unit to the twisted pair copper cable
9 at a distance from the central office corresponding to a point on the twisted pair
10 cable where the signal-to-noise ratio of a transmitted XDSL signal reaches a
11 threshold of minimum acceptable signal quality;

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12 receiving transmitted XDSL signals at the regenerator, and decoding
13 the received signals into base data;
14 repackaging and encoding the base data into an XDSL signal having
15 a desired protocol format; and
16 retransmitting the XDSL signal to the original destination terminal.)

1 8. The method of claim 7 further comprising transmitting
2 XDSL signals from the central office transmits using an asynchronous transfer
3 mode (ATM) protocol, and selectively repackaging the base data into either the
4 ATM protocol format or a direct transmission protocol format depending on the
5 protocol requirements of the destination terminal.

1 9. The method of claim 7 further comprising transmitting the
2 received video signals as very-high-rate digital subscriber line (VDSL) type
3 signals.

1 10. The method of claim 7 further comprising transmitting the
2 received video signals as asynchronous digital subscriber line (ADSL) type signals.

1 11. The method of claim 7 further comprising retransmitting the
2 XDSL signals from the regenerator with a variable data rate.

1 12. The method of claim 7 further comprising retransmitting the
2 XDSL signals from the regenerator with a fixed data rate.

1 13. A regenerator for use in a digital subscriber line (XDSL)
2 signal type signal distribution system, the distribution system including a central
3 office for transmitting video signals on a twisted pair copper cable along with other

4 telephony and digital data signals to at least one end user location, the regenerator
5 comprising:

6 a receiver for receiving XDSL signals transmitted on the twisted
7 pair copper cable from either the central office or the end user;

8 a decoder for decoding the payload of a received XDSL signal into
9 base data;

10 an encoder for repackaging and encoding the base data into a
11 desired protocol format; and

12 a line driver for retransmitting the encoded signal onto the twisted
13 pair copper cable for distribution to the original destination, wherein the
14 predetermined distance for the location of the repeater corresponds to a point on
15 the twisted pair cable where the signal-to-noise ratio of a transmitted XDSL signal
16 reaches a threshold of minimum acceptable signal quality.

17 14. The regenerator of claim 13 wherein the receiver, decoder
18 and encoder comprise a very-high-rate digital subscriber line (VDSL) type
19 receiver, decoder and encoder.